

United States Congress

February 5, 2013

0112

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street SW, Room 8B201
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

We are writing you to express our concern regarding the unfulfilled promises of the Connect America Fund (CAF). In November 2011 when the Commission initiated comprehensive reform of its Universal Service Fund and Intercarrier Compensation systems, it created CAF.

While we certainly recognize the magnitude of such a multi-year endeavor, we are nevertheless concerned by the unfulfilled promise of CAF 1. Currently there are thousands of Utahns in price-cap territories who remain without access to broadband service, and we implore the FCC to invest all allotted CAF 1 incremental support funds towards the remedying of this problem in addition to working to implement CAF 2.

Unfortunately, the FCC's overly prescriptive eligibility criteria in 2012 restricted broadband deployment, passing over hundreds of Utah households despite available funds. This is especially disconcerting in light of the fact that our constituents contribute money to this fund with the expectation that the FCC will fulfill its mission to connect every American, regardless of where they live. To date, the FCC has yet to fulfill its duty and broadband service remains unavailable to many rural Utahns.

It is vital that the FCC fulfills its promise by using the CAF 1 incremental support funds to provide rural American's with broadband service.

Sincerely,

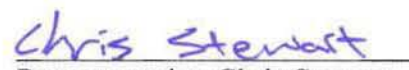


Senator Michael S. Lee



Senator Orrin G. Hatch

FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski
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Representative Rob Bishop
Representative Jason Chaffetz
Representative Chris Stewart



**Federal Communications Commission
Office of Legislative Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20554**

Office of the Director

February 27, 2013

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch
United States Senate
104 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hatch:

Thank you for your letter commenting on the Commission's *Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* in its Universal Service Connect America Fund (CAF) proceeding. The Commission is dedicated to distributing all CAF funds in the most effective manner to preserve and advance voice and broadband service, including accelerating the deployment of modern communications networks to consumers who lack access to robust broadband. Your views are very important and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Guice", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gregory Guice
Director
Office of Legislative Affairs



**Federal Communications Commission
Office of Legislative Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20554**

Office of the Director

February 27, 2013

The Honorable Mike Lee
United States Senate
825 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Lee:

Thank you for your letter commenting on the Commission's *Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* in its Universal Service Connect America Fund (CAF) proceeding. The Commission is dedicated to distributing all CAF funds in the most effective manner to preserve and advance voice and broadband service, including accelerating the deployment of modern communications networks to consumers who lack access to robust broadband. Your views are very important and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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Gregory Guice
Director
Office of Legislative Affairs